

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 AID-05 PC-01 ACDA-07 OC-06 CCO-00 SCS-03
SCA-01 OPR-02 ARA-06 SY-05 MCT-01 OMB-01 USSS-00 /072 W
-----110157Z 116538 /75

O R 091510Z MAR 77 ZFF6
FM AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1967
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USUN NEW YORK 001
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY KINSHASSA
SECDEF WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER//ECJ4-7
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUBUMBASHI 0033

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA FOUR)

E.O. 11652: GDS

SUBJECT: ALLEDGED BORDER ATTACKS IN SOUTHWEST

1. SUMMARY: DESPITE BAD COMMUNICATIONS, IT APPEARS THAT AT LEAST TWO SEPARATE ANGOLAN MILITARY UNITS, POSSIBLY WITH MERCENARY SUPPORT, ATTACKED SW SHABA ON MARCH 8 AND 9. ONE FORCE ATTACKED DILOLO AND THE OTHER MOVED FROM THE SOUTH THROUGH LUASHI TO KISENGEANO OCCUPIED SMK MINING SITE. UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT SANDOA AND KATANGA WERE ALSO OCCUPIED.

2. ACCORDING TO WELL INFORMED SOURCE, A FAZ SOLDIER CALLED SNCZ HQS IT LUBUMBASHI AT 1335 HOURS ON MARCH 8 TO REPORT KISENGE (SITE OF SMK CONFIDENTIAL

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MANGANESE MINE AND FACTORY) OCCUPIED BY MPLA TROOPS. INFORMANT HAD FLED KISENGE AND WAS CALLING FROM DIVUMA. SNCZ OFFICIALS CALLED GENERAL ZONGIA TO INFORM HIM. AT 1100 HOURS MARCH 9 AN SNCZ AGENT CALLED SNCZ HQS LUBUMBASHI TO REPORT THAT THERE HAD BEEN 20-25 EXPLOSIONS IN DILOLO WITHIN LAST HOUR, THAT POPULATION HAD FLED DILOLO AND TOWN NOW

EMPTY. SNCZ REPORTS COMMUNICATIONS TO DILOLO NOW NON EXISTANT.
SNCZ INFORMED REGIONAL COMMISSIONER GENERAL ZONGIA AND HAS HALTED ALL
TRAIN TRAFFIC WEST OF MUTSHATSHA. SOURCE ALSO REPORTS THAT SAME SNCZ
AGENT CLAIMS POPULATION ALSO FLEEING KAPANGA.

3. SMK LUBUMBASHI REPORTS IT RECEIVED COMMUNICATIONS TO EFFECT THAT
KISENGE HAS BEEN OCCUPIED BY INVADING FORCE, INCLUDING MERCENARIES
COMING FROM ACROSS ANGOLAN BORDER NEAR AREA OF LUASHI. SMK FEARFUL
ITS MINE, PLANT AND WORKERS BEING HELD HOSTAGE. SMK UNABLE TO
CONTACT KISENGE SINCE YESTERDAY. SMK ALSO REPORTS ACCORDING TOTWCND
DILOLO HAS BEEN ATTACKED. SMK ALSO REPORTS THAT SANGOLA AND
KAPANGA ALLEDGEDLY MENACED. WE ARE UNABLE TO CONFIRM WITH CND THUS
FAR
AS CND CHIEF IS CURRENTLY CLOSETED WITH REGIONAL COMMISSIONER.

GENERAL OELIEF HERE SEEMS TO BE THAT ONE OR MORE INVADING FORCES
FROM ANGOLA CONSISTING OF MPLA, CUBANS AND KATANGA GENDARMES
ATTACKED DILOLO AND KISENGE. STORIES OF TROUBLES AT SANGOLA AND
KAPANGA SEEM BASED MORE ON THIRD HAND REPORTS THUS FAR. IT SHOULD BE
UNDERSTOOD THAT COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN LUBUMBASHI
AND WESTERN SHABA ARE VERY POOR AT BEST
AND ALMOST NON-EXISTENT NOW IN VIEW OF APPARENT PROBLEMS
THERE, SO ALL STORIES MUST BE REGARDED CRITICALLY. HOWEVER, IT IS
APPARANT THAT THERE HAVE BEEN INCIDENTS OF SOME KIND IN WESTERN
SHABA.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BORDER INCIDENTS, INVASIONS, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LUBUMB00033
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770081-0432
Format: TEL
From: LUBUMBASHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770378/aaaacqf.tel
Line Count: 88
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 185f5ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3163382
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALLEDGED BORDER ATTACKS IN SOUTHWEST
TAGS: MOPS, AO, CG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/185f5ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009